



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
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SAMHSA ***News Release***

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\$92.5 Million Awarded for Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grants

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) today announced the award of \$92.5 million to seven states over five years for Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grants (MHT SIGs). These cooperative agreements will provide funds to transform state mental health service delivery systems – from systems dictated by outmoded bureaucratic and financial incentives to systems driven by consumer and family needs that focus on building resilience and facilitating recovery.

“These new grants will significantly advance the transformation agenda outlined in the federal action agenda for mental health care,” said SAMHSA Administrator Charles Curie. “People with mental disorders have a vital role to play in our families, our neighborhoods, our communities, and our country. Their ability to participate fully can no longer be derailed by outdated science, outmoded financing systems, and unspoken discrimination. The grants we are awarding today can put people with mental disorders at the heart of the health care system.”

The states that receive the awards, administered by SAMHSA’s Center for Mental Health Services, will serve as platforms for learning about what strategies and activities do and do not work in transforming the states’ mental health and related systems. In partnerships with these states, SAMHSA will communicate successful strategies and activities to other states, territories, and tribes and tribal organizations in order to improve and accelerate transformation across the nation.

The grants require the grantees to enlist consumers and family members as active partners in all transformation planning and activities. They also require grantees to take a life span approach to services and to provide a continuum of services including promotion, prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Over \$18.5 million will be awarded in the first year and a similar amount will be distributed among the awardees in the subsequent years. Award grantees are:

Connecticut - \$2,730,000 for the first year -- to continue developing a recovery-oriented system of mental health care in which state and local systems work together seamlessly to offer all of the state’s citizens, across the lifespan, an array of effective, accessible services and recovery supports to prevent mental illness and promote resilience and recovery.

Ohio - \$2,388,700 for the first year– to fully orient the mental health and other systems to recovery, resilience, and culturally competent practices. Youth and adult consumers and families will be actively engaged in their service and recovery experiences, which will include person-centered planning, peer support, and recovery and resilience-oriented policy making.

Oklahoma - \$ 2,730,000for the first year – to develop a strong, sustainable infrastructure to promote lasting changes across all state agencies, enabling persons with mental illness to access individualized care and support expeditiously and to achieve and sustain recovery.

Washington - \$2,730,000 for the first year– to build the infrastructure for an on-going process of planning, action, learning, and innovation in mental health care. Key elements will include a social marketing initiative to increase awareness and reduce the stigma of mental illness and strengthening of the statewide infrastructure for consumer and family support.

Maryland - \$2,713,887 for the first year– to facilitate deep and lasting change in the way services are delivered, in part by enhancing the already strong public-academic and public-private provider partnerships in the areas of evidence-based practices and by emphasizing a recovery-focused approach to service.

New Mexico - \$2,546,363 for the first year – to bring fragmented systems into a coherent whole, integrate the behavioral health services and perspectives of 15 state agencies; bring together critical partners locally throughout communities across the state; and expand behavioral health coverage to the most isolated corners of the state.

Texas - \$2,730,000 for the first year– to build a solid foundation for delivering evidence-based mental health and related services, foster recovery, improve quality of life, and meet the multiple needs of mental health consumers across the life span, and to move the system from disparate programs to a coordinated system of care that offers promotion, prevention, and treatment services to Texans across the life span.

SAMHSA is a public health agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The agency is responsible for improving the accountability, capacity and effectiveness of the nation's substance abuse prevention, addictions treatment, and mental health service delivery system.

